



The Buckeye Airlifter



The 179th Airlift Wing, Ohio Air National Guard, Mansfield, OH

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Inspection ends with favorable results

**By: MSgt. Randy Dunham
179th Wing Historian**

Air Mobility Command inspectors in October told base leaders something that has become the standard in the 179th – the unit knows how to do its collective job and knows how to do it well.

“The message from the inspectors is clear, and it’s what has been the custom at the 179th,” said Col. Willis Waldron. “Speaking on behalf of Col. Green, I can safely say the inspections proved we’re very well-prepared to perform our mission and that our programs and procedures are well-managed.”

The inspectors spent 12 days looking at initial response (IR), unit compliance (UCI), and special interest items (SII).

“I can safely say we fared quite well,” Waldron said.

Preparations for the inspections began nearly a year ago, but an intensive, well-rehearsed, formal, walk-through was conducted during the August and September drills.

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Inspectors examine a variety of elements on the flight line during the initial response phase of the mobility exercise.

Cargo was palletized, mobility lines activated and aircraft “generated” during the practice sessions. In the end, the mission was accomplished.

“It took an enormous amount of work by everyone and a “million” details from training, paperwork, shots, chem gear, and on and on.” Said Col. Richard Green, wing commander. “But, in the end, each of you took the responsibility to not only do your job, but you did it above and beyond. In fact, from my perspective, you redefined the phrase above and beyond. You took it to new heights.”

The IR inspection assessed the wings ability to generate and deploy

forces safely. The UCI measured compliance with law requirements and other directives. The SII dealt specifically with certain areas and special interest functions.

Colonel Green said he wasn’t surprised at the outcome.

“That’s how people in the 179th have always done their jobs, which is why it is such a satisfying experience to be a part of this organization,” he said. “So, my thanks to everyone for a great job.”